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AUG 16 1993

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF ALASKA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF ALASKA

By BM Deput

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

AARON HICKS,

Defendant.

Case No. A93-002-4 CR

Anchorage, Alaska

July 7, 1993

10:00 o'clock a.m.

IMPOSITION OF  
SENTENCE

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE HONORABLE JAMES M. FITZGERALD  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiff:

MARK ROSENBAUM, ESQUIRE  
STEPHAN COLLINS, ESQUIRE  
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
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For the Defendant:

MOSHE ZOREA, ESQUIRE  
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Court Recorder:

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AURORA COURT REPORTING  
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1 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA - WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 1993

2 (On Record at 10:00 o'clock a.m.)

3 (Call to Order of the Court)

4 THE CLERK: Please be seated.

5 THE COURT: (indiscernible).

6 MR. ROSENBAUM: Good morning, Judge.

7 THE COURT: Call the case.

8 THE CLERK: Case A93-002, United States of America  
9 versus Aaron Hicks.

10 THE COURT: For sentencing. Mr. Zorea, I understand  
11 that there's a question concerning accountability at-- for the  
12 defendant Hicks at Square 89 Apartments, Anchorage, Alaska.  
13 I was just checking my notes and I had some difficulty loca-  
14 ting that part of Wiley's testimony, but I have found from the  
15 Probation Officer who conducted the investiga-- the Presen-  
16 tence Report, or made the-- prepared the Presentence Report,  
17 that the deduction of the 2,500 grams would not make any  
18 difference in that, and the base offense level would remain at  
19 38 in any event. Mr. Rosenbaum, do you have anything to add?

20 MR. ROSENBAUM: No, Judge, just that the record  
21 should be clear that whether we count Square 89 or whether we  
22 don't, the calculation would be the same, we agree.

23 THE COURT: The total base offense level is 42. The  
24 guidelines require a sentence of 360 months to life. The de-  
25 fendant is not in any position to pay a fine. I've reviewed

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1 the Presentence Report. No restitution is involved. So  
2 doesn't it come down that I have to sentence within the range  
3 of 360 months to life?

4 MR. ZOREA: Yes. Unfortunately, Your Honor, I think  
5 that that's true. This is a case where I think a court's in-  
6 dividual discretion, looking at this defendant, would warrant  
7 a sentence lower than that, but I believe having gone through  
8 it pretty thoroughly that that's what the numbers add up to  
9 and there is--

10 THE COURT: That's what the numbers come to, and--

11 MR. ZOREA: Yeah.

12 THE COURT: -- I-- he's 22 years old and I'm going  
13 to wind up here imposing a sentence of 360 months, that would  
14 be the minimum.

15 MR. ZOREA: It's really tragic in view of the fact  
16 he made it through high school, his juvenile years, no record  
17 and then takes a wrong fork in the road and gets lured to the  
18 phoney business of-- of drugs, and here he is the rest of his  
19 adult life pretty well pigeonholed, so we-- there's not a lot  
20 that we can say one way or another because I don't think  
21 there's, as Your Honor has indicated, that there's anything  
22 that can be done other than the 360 months which we think, of  
23 course, would be the appropriate sentence given the options  
24 that the court has.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Rosenbaum, do you have any sentenc-

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1 | ing comments?

2 |           MR. ROSENBAUM: We don't disagree, Judge, that we're  
3 | all here bound by the determination by Congress through the  
4 | delegation of the Sentencing Commission, the only thing that  
5 | needs to be added that has not been commented on thus far is  
6 | something where another question of non-discretion for all of  
7 | us and that's the additional 60 months for the 924(c). So  
8 | we're in a posture where it's 360 would be the minimum sen-  
9 | tence for the drug counts, plus 60 months for the 924(c), for  
10 | a total of 420 months imprisonment.

11 |           THE COURT: Very well. Mr. Zorea, any further  
12 | comments?

13 |           MR. ZOREA: No, I can't argue against that either,  
14 | Your Honor. That's pretty clear in the law that it is to be  
15 | consecutive.

16 |           THE COURT: Very well. Mr. Hicks, do you-- do you  
17 | wish to make a statement to the court?

18 |           MR. ZOREA: Not beyond what I have, Your Honor.

19 |           THE COURT: Mr. Hicks, do you wish to make a state-  
20 | ment to the court?

21 |           MR. HICKS: No, sir.

22 |           THE COURT: You may stand. I find you guilty in  
23 | accordance with the verdict of the jury of a conspiracy, in  
24 | violation of 21 USC Section 846. The penalty provided by the  
25 | statute is ten years to life and a fine of up to four million

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1 dollars. I find you guilty of Count II, conspiracy to produce  
2 false identification in violation of 18 USC 371 and 18 USC  
3 1028. The penalty provided is up to five years, a fine of  
4 \$250,000.00.

5 I find you guilty of Count IV in accordance with the ver-  
6 dict of the jury. Distribution and possession of crack co-  
7 caine with intent to distribute in violation of 21 USC Section  
8 841. The penalty provided by law is five to 40 years, a fine  
9 of up to two million dollars.

10 I find you guilty in accordance with the verdict of the  
11 jury to Count V, maintaining a place for drug distribution, in  
12 violation of 21 USC Section 856. The penalty provided by law  
13 is up to 20 years, a fine of up to \$500,000.00.

14 I find you guilty of Count VIII, use of firearms in re-  
15 lation to drug trafficking, in violation of 18 USC Section  
16 924, subpart (c). The mandatory sentence of not less than  
17 five years which is required to run consecutive to any other  
18 sentence imposed, and a fine of up to \$250,000.00.

19 I find you guilty of Count XIII in accordance with the  
20 verdict of the jury, distribution and possession of crack  
21 cocaine with intent to distribute, in violation of 21 USC  
22 Section 841. The penalty provided by law is five to 40 years,  
23 a fine of up to two million dollars.

24 I find you guilty of Count XIV in accordance with the  
25 verdict of the jury, maintaining a place for drug trafficking,

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1 in violation of 21 USC Section 856. The penalty is up to 20  
2 years, a fine of \$500,000.00-- up to \$500,000.00.

3 I find you guilty of Count XVI, maintaining a place for  
4 drug trafficking, in violation of 21 USC Section 856. A  
5 finding of guilty is in accordance with the verdict of the  
6 jury. The penalty provided by law is up to 20 years, a fine  
7 of up to \$500,000.00.

8 I find you guilty of Count XXIII, in accordance with the  
9 verdict of the jury, use of pagers in relation to drug  
10 trafficking in violation of 21 USC Section 843. The penalty  
11 is up to four years, a fine of up to \$250,000.00.

12 I find you guilty of Count XXVIII, in accordance with the  
13 verdict of jury, maintaining a place for drug trafficking in  
14 violation of 21 USC Section 843. The penalty provided by law  
15 is up to 20 years, a fine of up to \$500,000.00.

16 I find and conclude that the base offense level is 38,  
17 that by reason of the use of-- of weapons there must be a two-  
18 level increase, that your role in the offense was an organ-  
19 izer/manager and supervisor at various crack houses, it re-  
20 quires an upward level of two. The adjusted offense level is  
21 42, the -- according to the sentencing guidelines the minimum  
22 penalty can be imposed is 360 months.

23 I'm required, in addition to imposing a sentence of 360  
24 months incarceration, a special release of not less than five  
25 years, and I impose a special release subject to conditions

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1 | that you not at any time possess any firearm or any narcotics  
2 | or dangerous drugs. Those will be special conditions imposed.

3 | I find that no restitution is required and that you're  
4 | unable to-- to pay any fine. The-- I'm required to impose a  
5 | assessment of \$500.00 or \$50.00 for each conviction of a  
6 | felony. The clerk will enter the appropriate judgment, the  
7 | defendant will now be remanded to the custody of the United  
8 | States Marshal and execution of the sentence.

9 | MR. ROSENBAUM: Judge, the imposition on 924(c), I  
10 | think needs to be done--

11 | THE COURT: I'm sorry?

12 | MR. ROSENBAUM: The 924(c) needs to be done  
13 | separately, I believe, Your Honor. That would be 60 months on  
14 | top of that. Unless the court was thinking about doing it  
15 | count by count.

16 | THE COURT: 924(c) requires a mandatory five-year  
17 | sentence. That is-- I have no alternative, I have to impose  
18 | a mandatory five-year sentence consecutive to any other sen-  
19 | tence imposed. And that will be ordered. The clerk will pre-  
20 | pare the judgment. Anything else?

21 | MR. ROSENBAUM: I take it the court's judgments on  
22 | the other counts of conviction to run concurrent with Count I  
23 | with the exception of the 924(c)?

24 | THE COURT: All the-- all the sentences will run  
25 | concurrent except the sentence on Count VIII, which is the 924

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1 subpart (c).

2 MR. ROSENBAUM: Thank you, Judge.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Hicks, it's -- I really take no  
4 pleasure in imposing a sentence of this magnitude. I'm re-  
5 quired by law to do-- which I'm required by law to do, but I  
6 want to say that, you know, your father, Aaron Beard, who is  
7 very substantially responsible for, I believe, your participa-  
8 tion and conduct in this matter is-- has been acquitted in  
9 this case. Comparing the penalty imposed upon you and the  
10 fact that he's been acquitted is a matter which I have no  
11 control over, but which I must say I do regret.

12 The defendant is now remanded to the custody of the  
13 United States Marshal and execution of the sentence.

14 THE CLERK: This court now stands in recess subject  
15 to call.

16 (Court Recessed at 10:13 o'clock a.m.)

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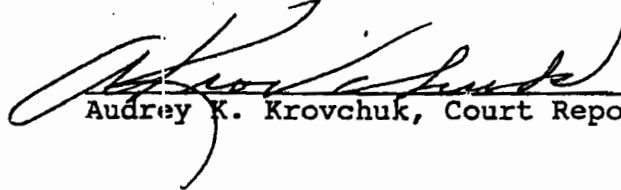
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

  
Audrey K. Krovchuk, Court Reporter

August 6, 1993  
Date

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